

Message Text

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21

ACTION CU-04

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P R 240958Z JUL 75
FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 340
INFO USIA WASHDC
AMCONSUL IBADAN

UNCLAS LAGOS 07038

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: OEXC, NI
SUBJECT: US-AFRICA SISTER CITY RELATIONSHIPS:
NOMINATION FOR IV GRANT

REF: (A) STATE A-2271 (B) LAGOS 6602
(C) LAGOS 5831

1. PROF.I.A. AKINJOGBIN, DEPUTY VICE CHANCELLOR AND CHAIRMAN, DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY, UNIFE, AND CHAIRMAN, IFE LOCAL COUNCIL, HAS EXPRESSED STRONG INTEREST IN REPRESENTING IFE AT SISTER CITIES CONFERENCE. HOWEVER, AS HE TOLD CPAO AND BPAO (IBADAN), NO LOCAL FUNDS CAN BE ALLOCATED FOR PROJECT THIS YEAR. GIVEN POST'S AND DEPARTMENT'S INTEREST IN PROMOTING US-AFRICA SISTER CITY RELATIONSHIPS IN SUPPORT CU AND POST OBJECTIVES, WE NOMINATE PROF. AKINJOGBIN FOR FULL 30-DAY IV GRANT. WE PROPOSE TO FUND FROM MONEY FREED BY CPP PROJECT H-44 (EBONG STUDY TOUR), WHICH CANNOT BE IMPLEMENTED.

2. BIODATA FOLLOWS:

FULL NAME : PROF. I.A. AKINJOGBIN

PRESENT POSITION: CHAIRMAN, DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY AND DEPUTY VICE CHANELLOR UNITED OF IFE, IFE IFE

DATE AND PLACE OF BIRTH: JANUARY 12, 1930: IPETUMODU, IFE, WESTERN STATE

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CITIZENSHIP : NIGERIAN: NONE PREVIOUS

PAST POSITIONS: CHAIRMAN, DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY, 1966 TO DATE:
DIRECTOR, INSTITUTE OF AFRICAN STUDIES,

UNIVERSITY OF IFE, 1966 - 68:
JUNIOR RESEARCH FELLOW IN HISTORY, 1957 - 60

PREVIOUS TRAVEL TO THE US: MAY 1970: SEPT. - DEC. 1970:
OCT. 1973 TO JUNE, 1974

PREVIOUS TRAVEL TO OTHER COUNTRIES: UNITED KINGDOM 1954-57:
1960-63: 1964, 1971:
FRANCE 1955, 1962, 1964, 1971:
HOLLAND 1970/71:
SIERRA LEONE 1952-54: DAHOMEY 1964 AND
REGULARLY SINCE THEN:
GHANA 1959 AND ETHIOPIA 1973

PREVIOUS USG GRANT : TRAVEL GRANT SPONSORED BY CARNEGIE CORPORATION.

VISA ELIGIBILITY : NAMECHECK SATISFACTORY, VISA ELIGIBLE

REASONS FOR NOMINATION: POST WOULD HAVE PREFERRED IFE PROVIDE PART
OR ALL FUNDS FOR
AKINJOGBIN TRAVEL BUT WE CONVINCED THAT NO SUPPORT AVAILABLE.
NEVERTHELESS IFE VERY INTERESTED IN SISER CITY CONCEPT AND
PROPOSED RELATIONSHIP WITH OBERLIN. AKINJOGBI AS CHAIRMAN OF
IFE LOCAL COUNCIL IS EXCELLENT CANDIDATE TO REPRESENT IFE AT
ROCHESTER WITH FOLLOWUP VISIT OBERLIN. POST BELIEVES MOMENTUM
AND INTEREST OPPORTUNE FOR IFE BECOME ACTIVE MEMBER SISTER CITY
PROGRAM.

OBJECTIVE OF VISIT: NOMINEE'S PARTICIPATION SUBJECT
CONFERENCE HIGHLY DESIRABLE FROM
STANDPOINT CU/POST OBJECTIVES BECAUSE BASIS FOR ONGOING
RELATIONSHIPS WOULD BE ESTABLISHED. DEPT. HAS BEEN PRIME MOVER
IN STRENGTHENING U.S.-AFRICA SISTER CITY RELATIONSHIPS AND POST
FURTHER ENCOURAGED BY RESULTS AMBASSADOR PALMER'S VISIT LAST
YEAR. SISTER CITY CONCEPT SEEMS EFFECTIVE WAY TO ENAHANCE CULTURAL
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TIES BETWEEN PEOPLE OF TWO COUNTRIES. MOREOVER, BENEFIT OF THIS
GRANT TO CU/POST OBJECTIVES WOULD EXTEND BEYOND SISTER CITY
DOMAIN. NOMINEE'S POSITION WITHIN UNIVERSITY PRESENT POTENTIAL
FOR LONG-RANGE INSTITUTIONAL AS WELL AS CITY-TO-CITY RELATIONSHIPS.
AVAILABILITY DATE: AUGUST 4, 1975

3. REQUEST ADVISE SOONEST.
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Margaret P. Grafeld
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